Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 TRSE-00 OMB-01 HA-05 /084 W

-----088937 191022Z/20

R 121036Z JUL 78

FM AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7799

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BURSSELS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

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CORRECTED COPY (TEXT)

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PDEV, PORG, OAU, RH, UK, US, SU

SUBJ: OAU COUNCIL OF MINISTERS, DAY V: DOOR REMAINS OPEN TO ALL

PARYT CONFERENCE ON ZIMBABWE

REF: (A) STATE 169971 (NOTAL) (B) KHARTOUM 3001 (NOTAL) (C) DAR ES SALAAM 2883 (NOTAL)

SUMMARY: DEBATE ON DECOLONIZATION AND LIBERATION COMMITTEE REPORTS CONCLUDED JULY 11, WITH COUNCIL OF MINISTERS (COM) APPARENTLY ADOPTING RESOLUTION ON ZIMBABWE WHICH MAINTAINS SUPPORT FOR ALL PARTY CONFERENCE AND POSSIBLE POLITICAL LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SOLUTION. PATRIOTIC FRONT HAS NOT RPT NOT BEEN RECOGNIZED BY OAU AS "SOLE AND AUTHENTIC" REPRESENTATIVE OF ZIMBABWE PEOPLE. OAU WILL CONTINUE TO PURSUE ARMED STRUGGLE FOR LIBERATION OF ZIMBABWE AS PART OF STRATEGY TO SUSTAIN PRESSURE FOR RESOLUTION OF ZIMBABWE QUESTION. END SUMMARY

- 1. COM COMPLETED DEBATE ON DECOLONIZATION AND LIBERATION COMMITTEE (ALC) REPORTS (AGENDA ITEMS 6 AND 7) JULY 11 AND BEGAN DISCUSSIONS ON MIDDLE EAST QUESTION. SPOKESMAN ONU BRIEFED PRESS FROM PREPARED AND CAREFULLY WORDED TEXT. ON QUESTION OF ZIMBABWE AND PATRIOTIC FRONT, ONU STATED THAT COM SUPPORTS PATRIOTIC FRONT AS "SOLE" LIBERATION MOVEMENT IN ZIMBABWE. HE ALSO REAFFIRMED DECISIONS TAKEN IN LIBREVILLE BY LAST HEADS OF STATE SUMMIT URGING "ALL SONS OF ZIMBABWE ENGAGED IN LIBERATION STRUGGLE TO FIGHT WITHIN RANKS OF PATRIOTIC RRONT" AND THAT "CHOICE OF ZIMBABWE LEADERS IS UP TO PEOPLE OF ZIMBABWE."
- 2. ONU THEN DELIBERATELY STATED AND REPEATED THAT PRESS REPORTS FOLLOWING JUNE 19-23 DAR ES SALAAM ALC MEETING THAT OAU HAD RESOLVED THAT PATRIOTIC FRONT (PF) WAS "THE SOLE AND SUTHENTIC REPRESENTATIVE OF THE ZIMBABWE PEOPLE" WERE INCORRECT. ONU SAID ALC HAD RESOLVED PF WAS ONLY LIBERATION MOVEMENT OF ZIMBABWE, NOT SOLE REPRESENTATIVE OF ZIMBABWE PEOPLE. HE CONTINUED, OAU AND CURRENT COM STILL MAINTAIN THAT ALL PARTIES SHOUDL PARTICIPATE IN AN ALL PARTY CONFERENCE TO ACHIEVE PEACEFUL SOLUTION. HE STRONGLY IMPLIED THAT COM WOULD RECOMMEND TO SUMMIT THAT ALC RESOLUTION ON ZIMBABWE (REF C) BE ADOPTED AS SUBMITTED.

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- 3. THROUGHOUT EXPLANATION OF COM DECISION IN ZIMBABWE RESOLUTION, ONU MADE CLEAR THAT OAU WOULD FOLLOW TWO-PRONGED APPROACH BY CONTINUING TO SUPPORT ARMED STRUGGLE OF PF AND BY PURSUING NEGOTIATIONS THROUGH ANGLO-AMERICAN PROPOSALS. DURING COM PLENARY DEBATE ON ZIMBABWE, REPORTEDLY MALI ARGUED FOR EXCLUSIVE OAU SUPPORT OF PF. THIS WAS OPPOSED BY AT LEAST LIBERIA AND ZAIRE ON FLOOR AND OBVIOUSLY MAJORITY OF MEMBERS. ALLEGEDLY LIBERIA WANTED LANGUAGE ADDED TO ZIMBABWE RESOLUTION SPECIFYING OAU SUPPORT FOR PARTICIPATION OF ALL PARTIES IN DETERMINING FUTURE OF ZIMBABWE. THIS WAS APPARENTLY NOT ADOPTED.
- 4. ONU CLAIMED THAT COM HAD ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY SECRETARIAT'S REPORT ON ZIMBABWE/PF, BUT REPORTS FROM DELEGATES PRESENT DURING DEBATE CLAIMED OTHERWISE. SPEECH TO COM BY SECGEN OF ZAPU (NKOMO FACTION) JOSEPH MSIKA, ON BEHALF OF PF CRITIZED U.K. AS "NOT SERIOUS" BECAUSE IT TRIES TO IGNORE WAR SITUATION, CONDEMNED INTERNAL SETTLEMENT ACTORS AND REQUESTED OAU TO CONTRIBUTE U.S.\$5 MILLION TO PF. (MSIKA DID NOT MENTION U.S.) ONU DID ALLOW THERE WERE "SOME DEIVERGENT VIEWS" ON ZIMBABWE AND SOME RESERVATIONS BY MEMBERS WERE NOTED, BUT THAT OAU WOULD ADOPT ALC

RECOMMENDATIONS.

5. BRITISH EMBOFF EXPRESSED PLEASURE WITH OAU POSITION AND BELIEVED IT BEST THAT COULD BE OBTAINED AT THIS POINT HE THOUGHT IT CLEARLY GAVE CONTINUED LIFE TO ANGLO-AMERICAN PROPOSALS.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 jan 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, MEETING REPORTS, REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 12 jul 1978 Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960 Decaption Note: Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW

Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014 Disposition Event:

Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978KHARTO03097
Document Source: CORE

Document Unique ID: 00 Drafter: n/a

Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: N/A Errors: N/A

Film Number: D780308-0714, D780287-0844 Format: TEL From: KHARTOUM Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path: ISecure: 1

Expiration:

Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780770/aaaacgwt.tel

Line Count: 123 Litigation Code IDs: Litigation Codes:

Litigation History: Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM Message ID: d36a4977-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc Office: ACTION AF

Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE Original Handling Restrictions: n/a Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a

Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 STATE 169971, 78 KHARTOUM 3001, 78 DAR ES SALAAM 2883

Retention: 0

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Content Flags:

Review Date: 26 apr 2005 **Review Event:** Review Exemptions: n/a **Review Media Identifier:** Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

SAS ID: 2040955 Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: OAU COUNCIL OF MINISTERS, DAY V: DOOR REMAINS OPEN TO ALL PARYT CONFERENCE ON ZIMBABWE

TAGS: PDEV, PORG, RH, UK, US, SU, OAU

To: STATE Type: TE

vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/d36a4977-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Review Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

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